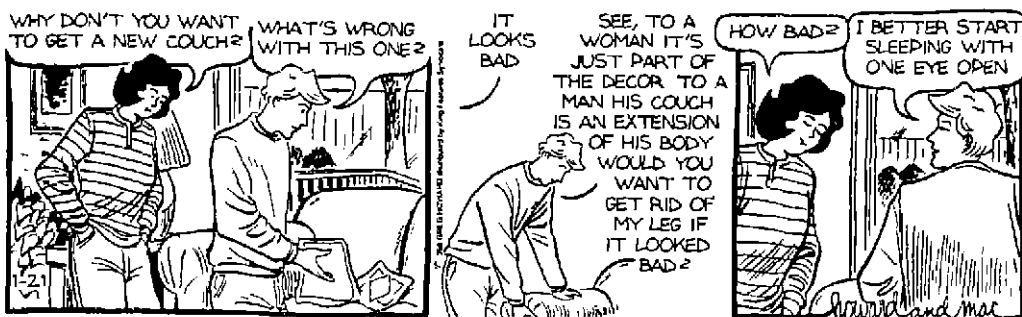


BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



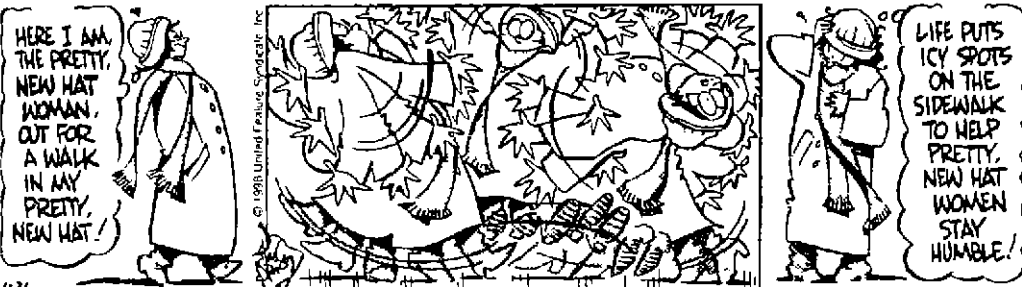
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



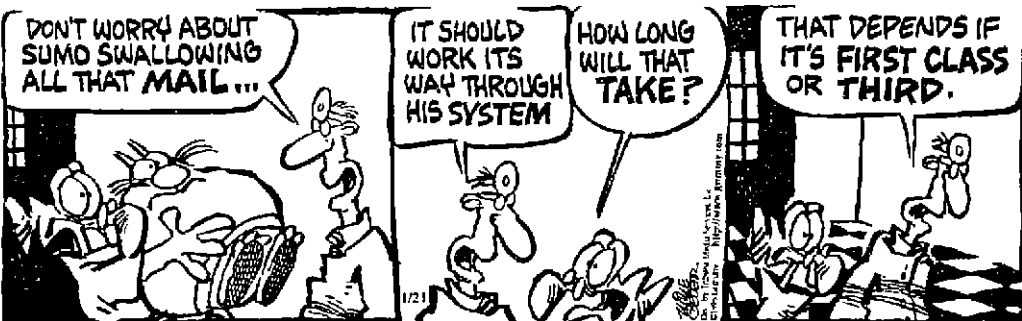
ROSE IS ROSE



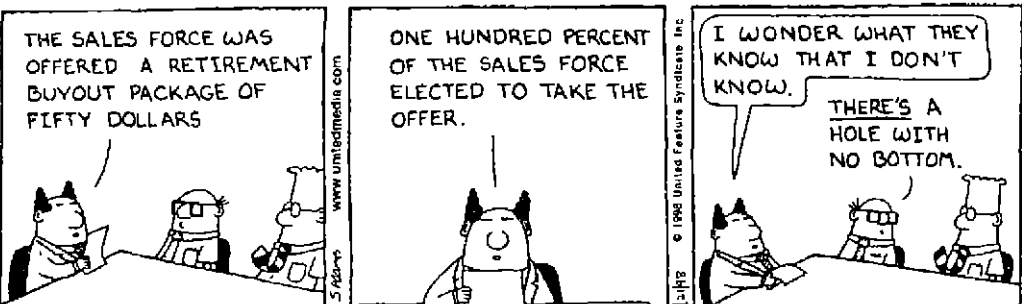
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



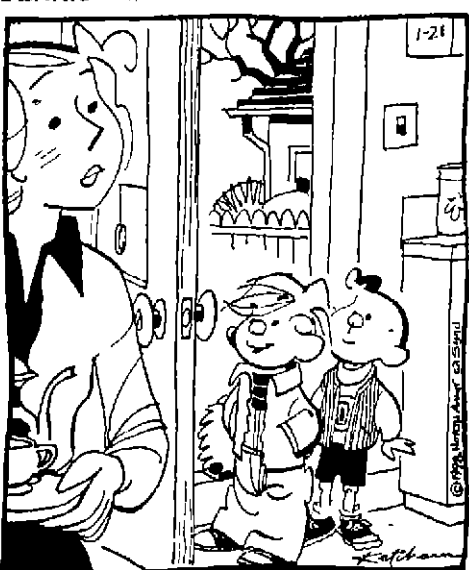
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



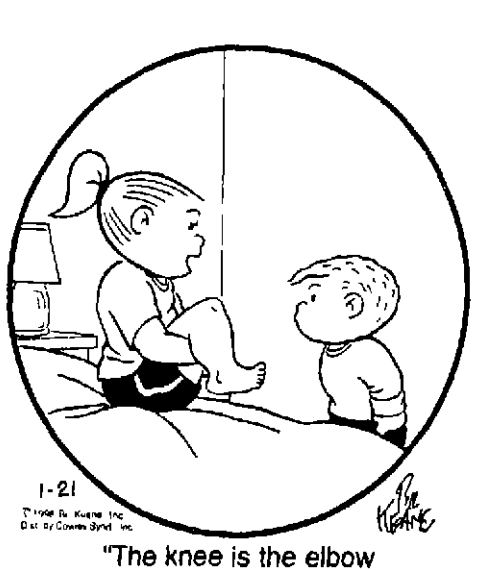
DILBERT



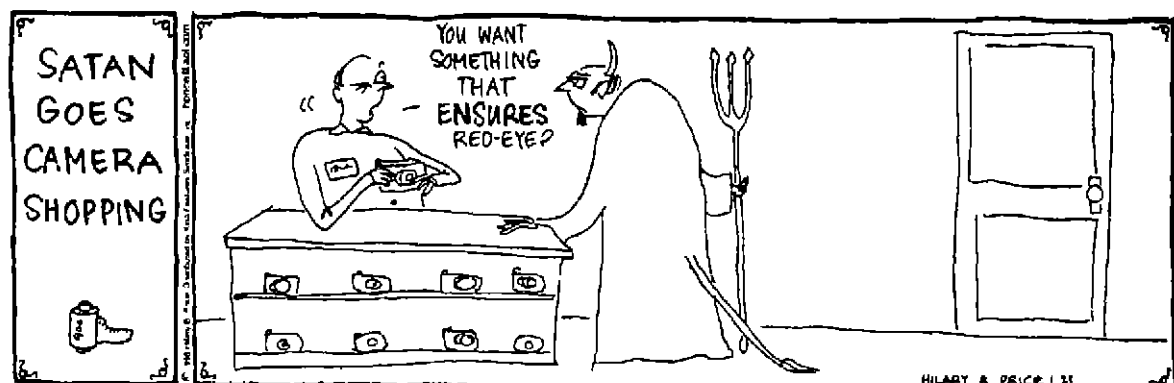
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



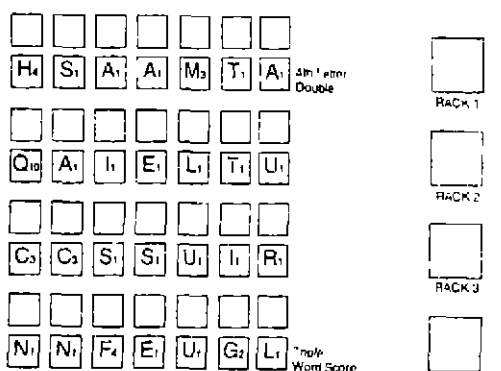
Today's Birthdays

Actor Paul Scofield is 76 Actor Steve Reeves ("Heracles") is 72 Gaffer Jack Nicklaus is 58 Opera singer Placido Domingo is 57 Singer Richie Havens is 57 Singer Mac Davis is 56 Actor Robby Benson is 42 Actress Geena Davis is 41 Basketball player Hakeem Olajuwon is 35 Singer Emma "Baby Spice" Bunton (Spice Girls) is 20 Rhythm-and-blues singer Nokio (Dru Hill) is 19.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE



DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 by 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words are 50 point bonus. Words used as any other have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, 4th Edition, Webster's Third New International Dictionary, and The Official Scrabble Words (Chambers) Judd's Solution Tomorrow 1/21/98.

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Gathering places

R X V S Q E N K I F D A X V T
Q M O M L P J H F C A Y W Y U
R A U D I T O R I U M P L N S
L J D I H H S H E F D B B Z M
X U V T D C R Q S T M O M M O
H K I H H A R F E E A E D B O
Z Y W O Y R T U S V E E T R R
Q O O N L E Q S H T L F H K T
I L H L L N A F I C D C F T A
A Z A X A A W N R E V A T O H
V H U B R S G M U E S I L O C

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: Gathering of Football Players
Arena Chat rooms Hall Stadium
Assembly Church Meeting Tavern
Auditorium Coffee shop Rally Theater
Banquet Coliseum School
© 1998 King Features, Inc. 1/21

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, Jan. 22, 1998
ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You probably won't overspend, as you seem undecided about one purchase. Don't make such a big deal about it.
TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Even though the breaks are going your way, it will take extra concentration for you to get into your work.
GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't let indecision about a business matter cause you to be wishy-washy about everything! Some luck is with you, and you should capitalize on it.
CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Yes, a business development is in your favor, but you need to go overboard in celebrating it.
LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) A career opportunity looks promising, but you have a tendency to second-guess yourself.
VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) The accent is on saving rather than spending. Sort fact from fiction in talks with others for some of what you hear is not exactly the truth.
LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Friends and family probably don't mix very well at present. You need to have a good talk with a relative.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you let things slide, there'll be plenty of catching up to do before the day ends.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure to consult with partners before committing yourself to a major expenditure. Overall, it's a day to keep a careful eye on financial matters.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) You'll profit from some expert advice about a career concern, but don't mix business and pleasure.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Try to be up-front with others. Evasiveness will only complicate your relationships.
PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Avoid unwise expansion in business and excessive personal spending. You have to stay on your toes, so be vigilant and prudent.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff
West criticized East for his signal at trick one. He claimed a diamond shift would have beaten the game had East played his heart deuce. However, South had the last word. I'll make the game, however you defend," he said.
West led his heart king. East played his nine, and South ducked. West led a second heart, grimacing when South won with his jack. South cashed his spade ace but recoiled when West discarded. How was South to reach dummy to pick up East's trump queen? If West held either the club ace or the diamond king, the game had no chance. As soon as West won a trick, East would get a heart ruff for one down. So South had to hope East had both minor honors. South offered his club queen to East, but East refused, eliminating an entry to dummy's king. Another club put East on play, and East had no escape. A diamond exit would produce an overtrick, so East surrendered and led a spade. At duplicate, saving the overtrick earned him a reasonable score. Was South's claim correct? Yes, it was. Assume West shifts to the diamond eight at trick two (A club shift won't change matters). South wins and cashes his trump ace. When West discards, South cashes his heart ace and leads his club queen. If East wins and exits in clubs, dummy wins and South takes the trump finesse and pulls the last trump. Then he leads a diamond to dummy's nine, and East is endplayed in either minor suit. And if East refuses South's club queen, another club puts him on play for the same result.

NORTH
♥ 10 9 6 3
♦ 9 2
♣ 8 5 3
♠ K J

WEST
♥ K Q 10 7 6
♦ 8 7 3
♣ J 7 6 5 2
♠ A 10 9 8

EAST
♥ Q 8 2
♦ 9 2
♣ K J 10 2
♠ A 10 9 8

SOUTH
♥ A K J 7 5 4
♦ A J 4
♣ A 4
♠ Q 4

Vulnerable North-South
Dealer South

The bidding
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass
4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead Heart king

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1210

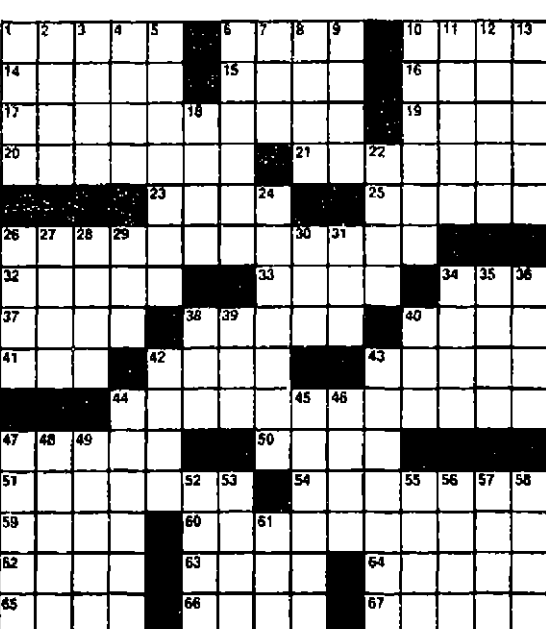
ACROSS
1 Mowing the lawn, e.g.
6 Actor James
10 Work hard
14 Hammenn Hank
15 Capital near the 60th parallel
16 Part of the arm
17 1988 film about an optimistic broker?
19 Visored cap
20 Not just a barber
21 Compromise one's talents
23 Some sweater necks
25 Banishes
26 1976 film about a Hunt brothers' venture?
32 Harvard, Yale, Brown etc.
33 South African currency
34 — tree
37 Bryan defector, 1908
38 Downpours
40 Don't dawdle!
41 Manner's dir.
42 Aquarium
43 Any song your parents like
44 1976 film about Wall Street pessimists, with "The?"
47 White elephant events
50 Charlotte and others
51 Gimcrack
54 Causing fear and trembling
59 "Diary of — Housewife"

DOWN

1 Members of a yellow fleet
2 — monde (high society)
3 Paris airport
4 Members' list
5 Curly-edged salad ingredients
6 Conqueror of Mexico
7 It's a waste
8 Cry for what might have been
9 Iditarod destination
10 Eskimo boot
11 Bread spreads
12 Type, as computer data
13 Miiks Fr.
16 One needing rehab
22 Truckful
24 Shutdown participant
26 Spot
27 Wall Street's Boesky
28 It's often toasted

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PODS CLOT TIMID
AOW RIME ODILE
DAZE ANNA NELLY
SLEEPYTIMEGAL
PRO FUSSSED
ADD INSPIRE TSE
DINGS TETE ERTE
OREAMOREAMOREAM
LETS ROLL AGATE
ECO COMESBY MED
STOPUP EAU
MISTERSANDMAN
SCANT COOT DALI
OUNCE HALE EXEC
DRYER ODOR RICK



Puzzle by Jonathan Schmalbach
29 Nov. honoree
30 Headed
31 Half-inch stripe wearer Abbr.
34 Crop overseer, for short
35 Brace
36 Jungle creatures
38 "Far out"
39 — Arbor
40 Bass, e.g.
42 A real piece of work
43 Witness
44 Like some knees
45 Penguin's walk
46 Bone-dry
47 Actor Arnold
48 Slings and arrows repeller
49 Climbing vine
52 Kelt of the comics
53 High-tech suffix
55 Lab shouts
56 British school officials
57 Bald eagle's cousin
58 Geneticist's studies
61 Cockpit abbr.

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1 900-420-5555 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords for the last 50 years 1 888-7-ACROSS.